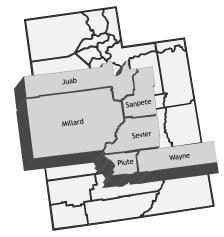
Central: Juab, Piute, Millard, Sanpete, Sevier, Wayne

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Inside:

- 2003 Employers and Nonemployers
- Labor market struggles in Sevier



Contact the author, your regional economist, with any questions on content:

Lecia Parks Langston 435-688-3115 lecialangston@utah.gov

What the Heck is a "Nonemployer"?

Nonemployer? What in the world is a nonemployer? Sounds like some bureaucratic word made up by a bunch of government drones. (My spellchecker certainly doesn't think it's a real word.) Simply, a nonemployer is a business that doesn't have employees.

Admittedly, the information we typically publish usually ignores this very important part of the economy. But it's not our fault! The primary source of our employment data doesn't legally cover businesses without paid employees. Fortunately, the



U.S. Census Bureau helps fill in the gap with its nonemployer statistics.

To be counted as a nonemployer, businesses must meet the following conditions:

- · No paid employees
- Nonconstruction—annual receipts of \$1,000 or more;
 Construction at least \$1 in receipts
- Subject to federal income taxes

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What the Heck is a "Nonemployer"?

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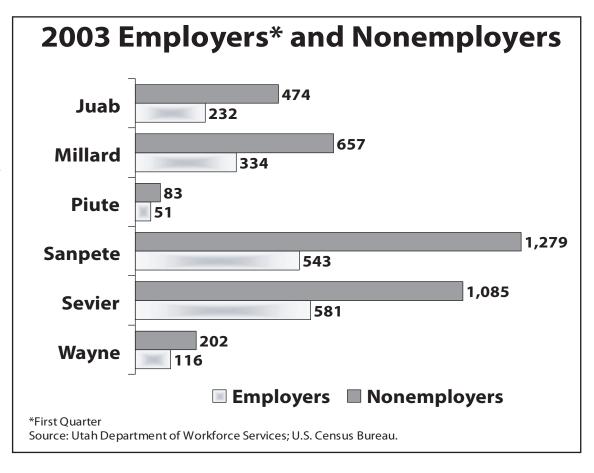
What's considered receipts (besides the slip of paper you get from the cashier at the grocery store)? Sales, commissions, payments and other income reported on business income tax returns. Of course, for many workers, a "nonemployer" business is a secondary source of income.

According to the 2003 nonemployer statistics recently published by the Census Bureau, there are a whole lot of nonemployers floating around the sixfact, county area. In nonemployer businesses generally outnumber employers central Utah by two to one. For example, Sevier County

had roughly 580 employers during the first quarter of 2003, but almost 1,100 nonemployers.

In many counties, a large share of nonemployers can be categorized in the other services section of the North American Industry Classification System. This industry group includes a wide variety of business types such as repair/maintenance services, personal services (like a beauty shop) and laundry services.

However, when it comes to receipts, the construction industry dominates the scene. A noticeable share of



nonemployers congregates in the construction industry as well as retail trade, real estate and healthcare/social services.

What kind of income do these businesses generate? On average in the six counties of central Utah receipts measure \$34,000 per year. However, average receipts per business range from less than \$23,000 in Wayne County to \$38,000 in Sanpete County.

While its receipts tally may be low, Wayne County showed the fastest-growing nonemployer sector in 2003 (up 9 percent). On the other hand,

Piute County's nonemployer group decreased slightly.

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County News

Juab County: The economy continued to clip along at a torrid pace, with 10-percent job growth in September 2005. Construction, manufacturing, and healthcare/social services proved the three main players in the county's 300-job gain. Not surprisingly, unemployment dropped below 4 percent by year-end. In addition, third quarter construction permit values almost doubled in the third quarter. The one soft spot? Third quarter gross taxable sales dropped 6 percent.

Millard County: Job growth in Millard County wandered all over the map during the third quarter of 2005. The total figure landed at a 1.4-percent rate increase in September. However, the county has shown sufficient job expansion to drop its jobless rate below the 5-percent mark. The county's other two indicators diverged in the third quarter of 2005—construction permit values dropped by one-third while gross taxable sales increased 11 percent.

Piute County: This county's high-flying 20-percent job creation days came to an abrupt end in the third quarter of 2005. By September 2005, Piute County showed year-to-year job losses of roughly 14 percent. The largest job declines occurred in the leisure/hospitality services industry. Nevertheless, the county's unemployment rate dipped below 3 percent by December and third quarter sales skyrocketed by 28 percent.

Sanpete County: While Sanpete County job growth has proved inconsistent during the past several years, there have been more "up" months than "down." Perhaps the third quarter will set a new pattern with year-to-year job growth rates tightly clustered around the 2.5 percent mark. Other indicators followed suit. Unemployment has eased downward and both construction permitting and gross taxable sales made fine third quarter showings.

Sevier County: The labor market continued to struggle in the third quarter of 2005. Fortunately, by September, job losses had almost evaporated (down only 0.1 percent). Construction, retail trade, manufacturing, and leisure/hospitality services have all taken noticeable employment hits during the past year. Lower year-end jobless rates suggest the county's jobs will show improvement when fourth quarter numbers become available.

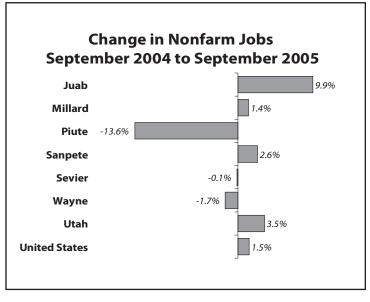
Wayne County: During the third quarter of 2005, Wayne County's labor market continued to limp along. Jobs dropped almost 2 percent during the 12 months preceding September with leisure/hospitality services taking the brunt of the losses. Construction and sales rounded out a rather dismal economic picture with substantial year-over losses in the third quarter of 2005.

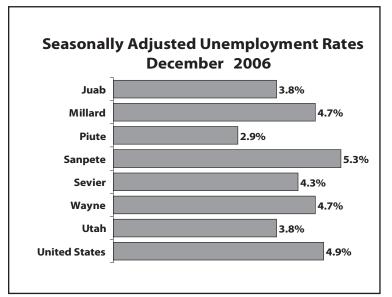
What's Up?

- ❖ The Utah Permanent Community Impact Fund Board gave a \$50,000 grant to Scipio, Millard County to chip-seal new roads and repair existing roads. Salt Lake Tribune
- → Delta Petroleum Corporation announced that it has plans to dig an exploration oil well in Sevier County by the end of the second quarter of 2006. The Richfield Reaper
- The Manti City
 Council is considering a sale of land that could lead to a significant residential development on the north end of the city. A developer has approached the council regarding the purchase of city property behind the Manti Temple. The Sanpete Messenger

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Source: Utah Dept. of Workforce Services; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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